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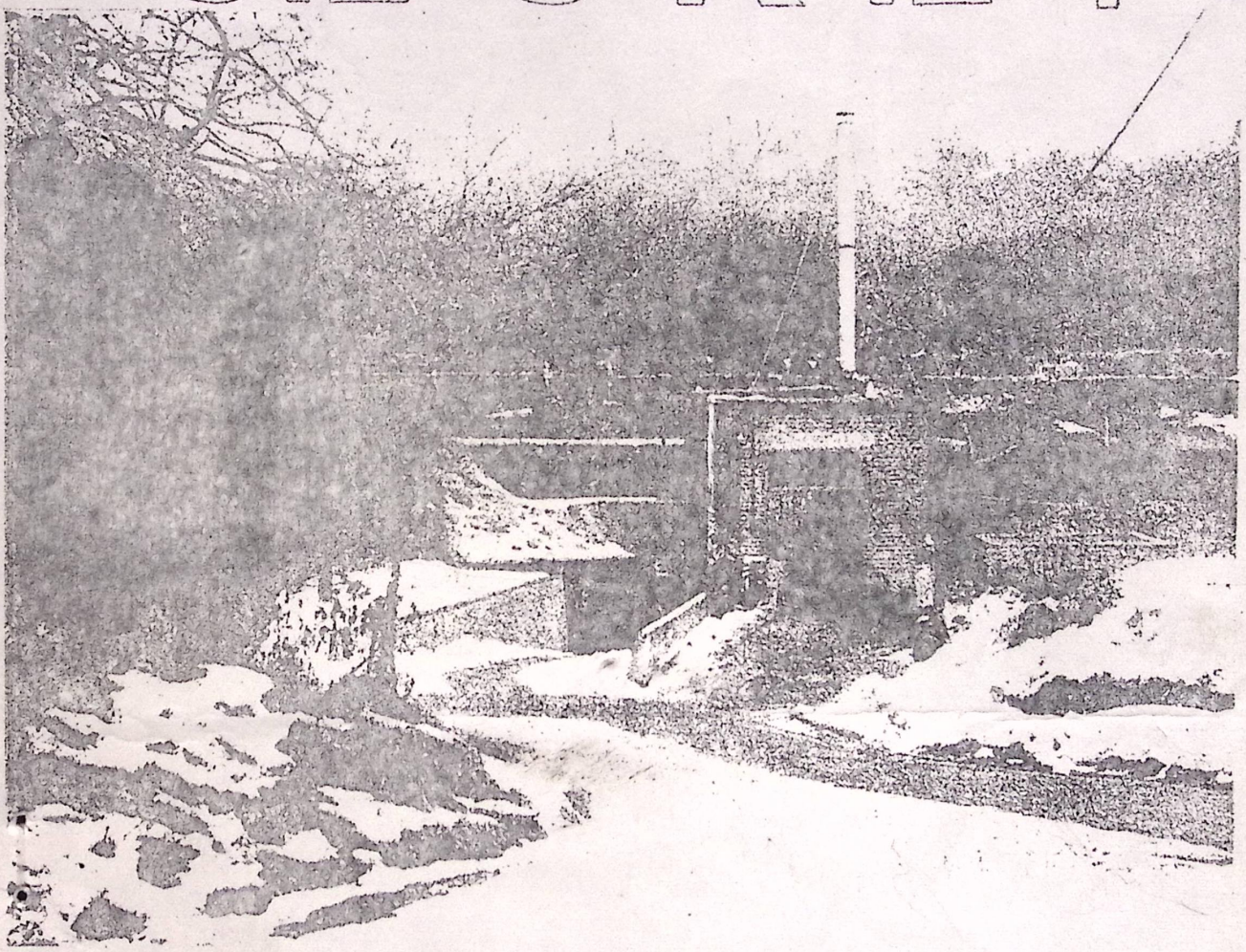
DANGER !

OFFICIAL SECRET



RSG-6

This pamphlet is about a small group of people who have accepted thermonuclear war as a probability, and are consciously and carefully planning for it.

They are above the Army, the Police, the Ministries or Civil Defence. They are based in fourteen secret headquarters, each ruled by a Regional Commissioner with absolute power over millions of people. In the whole of Britain only about 5000 men and women are involved; these chosen few are our shadow military government.

Their headquarters are called Regional Seats of Government. Our story mainly concerns RSG-6, which will rule much of Southern England. The people in RSG-6 are professors, top civil servants, air marshals and policemen. They are quietly waiting for the day the bomb drops, for that will be the day they take over.....

4000 copies printed, and distributed in Britain and abroad. Sent to the national press, papers covering the Southern Region, local councillors and political parties. Sent to Bertrand Russell, Albert Schweitzer, Linus Pauling, and members of Anti-War movements everywhere: we hope they will do something about it. Sent to Harold MacWilson, George Wigg, and the head of MI5: we hope it will make them cross. Sent to Michael Foot, Barbara Castle, Tony Greenwood, Frank Cousins and Gerald Nabarro: we shall be interested to see what they do.

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First Edition — Good Friday 1963
Complete unabridged reprint — 1st July 1963

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Cover photograph: The entrance to RSG-6, seen from the road that runs through Warren Row.

REGIONAL SEATS OF GOVERNMENT

The Government has secretly established a network of Regional Seats of Government covering the whole country. RSG-12 lies far behind the World War II gun emplacements in the Cliffs of Dover..... RSG-2 is a converted fort on the outskirts of York.....RSG-4 is in a concrete bunker underneath Government offices in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

The locations and telephone numbers of the RSG's are as follows: (RSG-5 and RSG-11 are still being built):-

RSG-1	Catterick (2011, 2081, 2101)	RSG-7	Dartmouth (Kingsbridge 2611)
RSG-2	York (59831, 59841)	RSG-8	Brecon (861)
RSG-3	Nottingham (291151)	RSG-9	Kidderminster (3474)
RSG-4	Cambridge (5[illegible])	RSG-10	Preston (84461)
RSG-6	Reading (61181, 62641)	RSG-12	Dover (2380)
RSG-	Scotland Edinburgh Davidsons Mains 1711)	RSG-NI	Armagh (2230)

The RSG system corresponds roughly to the Civil Defence areas, and its HQ (called CHAPLIN) is somewhere in London (ABBey 1255). The RSG's are also linked to a military HQ at Aldershot (24431)

WHERE IS RSG-6 ?

The post-nuclear Government at Reading - RSG-6 - has some offices at the Regional Civil Defence Centre, among the Civil Service buildings at WHITE KNIGHTS PARK. But the real site of RSG-6 is in a subterranean bunker 8 miles out of Reading - in the aptly-named village of Warren Row, near the even more aptly-named village of WARGRAVE, less than a mile off the main road from Reading to London (A4).

RSG-6 is disguised as the Home Office Underground Factory Warren Row. Under this name it is kept up without too much suspicion, and under this name it is maintained from a Ministry of Works office in Buckingham Avenue, Slough. It has in fact no manufacturing facilities whatever, except for duplicators and photostats (red tape) and lavatories (bad smells).

The entrance to RSG-6 is a few yards across the road from the RED HOUSE PUB, at the east end of Warren Row. It is surrounded and masked by thick woods and low hills. All that can be seen from the road is a padlocked wooden gate and a gatekeeper's hut. There is no name outside, and no indication that it is a Government establishment. It has been crudely but effectively disguised.

The surface buildings inside the gate consist of a couple of wooden storage sheds and a brick boiler house. But there is a concrete ramp wide enough to take motor vehicles, which runs down into the hillside as far as a pair of locked wooden doors (for keeping out H-Blasts, presumably). At some distance away there is an array of wireless aerials, whose cables disappear down a vertical shaft into the hilltop.

RSG-6 lies inside the hill, below the visible buildings and the wireless aerials - a comfortable war grave for the Southern Region Military Government.

WHAT IS RSG-6 ?

RSG-6 is a standby headquarters with an operational staff of several hundred. In the event of war, it will take over the

Government of the SOUTHERN REGION, which covers the counties of Oxfordshire, Berks, Hants, Dorset and the Isle of Wight, and the county Boroughs of Oxford, Reading, Portsmouth , Southampton and Bournemouth. It lies conveniently in the centre of a region with a population of three megadeaths.

RSG-6 is near the USAF Strategic Air Command and the RAF Bomber Command underground headquarters at High Wycombe, the Army Tactical Command headquarters at Aldershot, and the Army Strategic Reserve's concrete bunker HQ near Salisbury. It is also just outside the blast area of a Bomb up to 60 megaton size dropped on London.

Warren Row is a wholly self-contained community. It has its own facilities for generating electricity, pumping water and disposing of sewage. It has several months supply of fresh water, fuel oil and red tape. It has a canteen which can operate on a 24 hour basis. It even has a bar in which the lucky inhabitants can drink the world above them goodbye. Open only during licensing hours, of course. There is dormitory accommodation for about 400 people, segregated by sex.

RSG-6 is the centre of a complicated communications network. It is connected to the ordinary telephone system (Littlewick Green 395) and by red telephone direct line to the underground switching centre at White Knights Park (Reading 61181/62641). It has a dozen teleprinters and a radio signals department with UHF and VHF wireless equipment , for use in the highly likely event of the telephone system being destroyed. Even the clocks in RSG-6 are labelled "Zulu Time" - the international NATO system based on the US Strategic Air Command.

It is interesting to note that the GPO is now building 36 giant radio towers , in a network that will cover the whole country. One is London's Museum Tower, already a 300-ft beanstalk off the Tottenham Court Road. But a less publicised one lies just across the Thames from Warren Row, among the beechwoods of Stokenchurch, less than 5 miles from RSG-6. Most of these radio towers are close to one of the RSG's , and the system will be an integral part of the military's communications. Total cost to the GPO subscriber? Tens of Millions.

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF RSG-6?

RSG-6 is not a centre for civil defence. It is a centre for military government. It is the headquarters of the REgIONAL COMMISSIONER, who will have supreme power over the three million bodies in his region. In this headquarters the Regional Civil Defence Corps plays a minor and definitely subordinate part. RSG-6 is stuffed by Civil Servants in the middle echelons, and by Service officers in the middle ranks. They have all been appointed.

Virtually every important Government department except the Church of England is represented and has been given its staff and offices. There are rooms for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, Fire Brigade and Civil Defence. Each of these is centralised under a Supremo, who has already been named in each case. There are offices for the Treasury (including the Big Five) the Central Office of Information, the G.P.O., the BBC (but not ITV), the Board of Trade and the Ministries of Health, Food, Supply, Transport and Power. Other departments which will undoubtedly be important after the Bomb drops, and which also have offices in RSG-6, are the Ministry of Labour, the National Assistance Board and the WVS.

The functions of the various departments are enlightening. The COI will be responsible for censorship, as well as for public announcements (to whom?). The Ministry of Housing will deal with the disposal of the dead as well as the homeless. There are offices too for departments without analogous peacetime functions. Thus the

Scientific Unit will deal with bomb data and radiation risks, and HMSO will print and publish proclamations against rioting. The whole thing is a perfect example of military government.

WHO IS IN RSG-6 ?

If there were any doubt about the function of the Home Office Underground Factory Warren Row, the names of the people there would soon dispel it. The Camp Commandant, who looks after military administration, is Mjor G.D. Scales. His equivalent on the civilian side, the Principal Officer, is S. L. Lees. Mr Lees is a Permanent Under-Secretary at the Treasury, where he is Director of Organisation and Methods. On his Secretariat are A.G. Hurrell, (a Principal Officer at the Ministry of Education), I. H. Lightman , (a Principal in the secretariat of the Ministry of Works), and L. H. Mann (a senior Scientific Officer at the Ministry of Aviation).

Take a look at some of the other departments. Note particularly the rank of all concerned. There is not a single elected person among them. It is Colonels and Principal Officers who will rule after the Bomb drops, not M.P.'s or Councillors.

NAVY: Rear-Admiral F.E. Clemitson, (the Admiralty Regional Officer), with a large staff of Captains, Lieutenants, Commanders and Civil Officers, as well as ratings to polish the top brass.

ARMY: Major-General J.F. Metcalfe (General Officer Commanding Aldershot District), with a staff of officers and other ranks, including Lt-Col. J.D.Sale (Senior Staff Officer of operations, Aldershot District).

AIR FORCE: Air-Commodore J. B. Coward, with a number of officers, and some other ranks to whitewash the fallout.

POLICE: D. Osmond (Chief Constable of Hants) plus a staff of 15, including some women Police Constables.

FIRE BRIGADE: E. R. Ashill (Regional Fire Officer, and Chief Fire Officer for Hampshire), F. Mees (C.F.O. for Berks and Reading), A. H. Johnstone (C.F.O. for Surrey) and an all-male staff of 21.

CIVIL DEFENCE: Captain K.L. Harkness R.N.(London Regional Director of Civil Defence) - one wonders who looks after London? Have the Londoners who have volunteered for CD been told where their boss is to hide out?

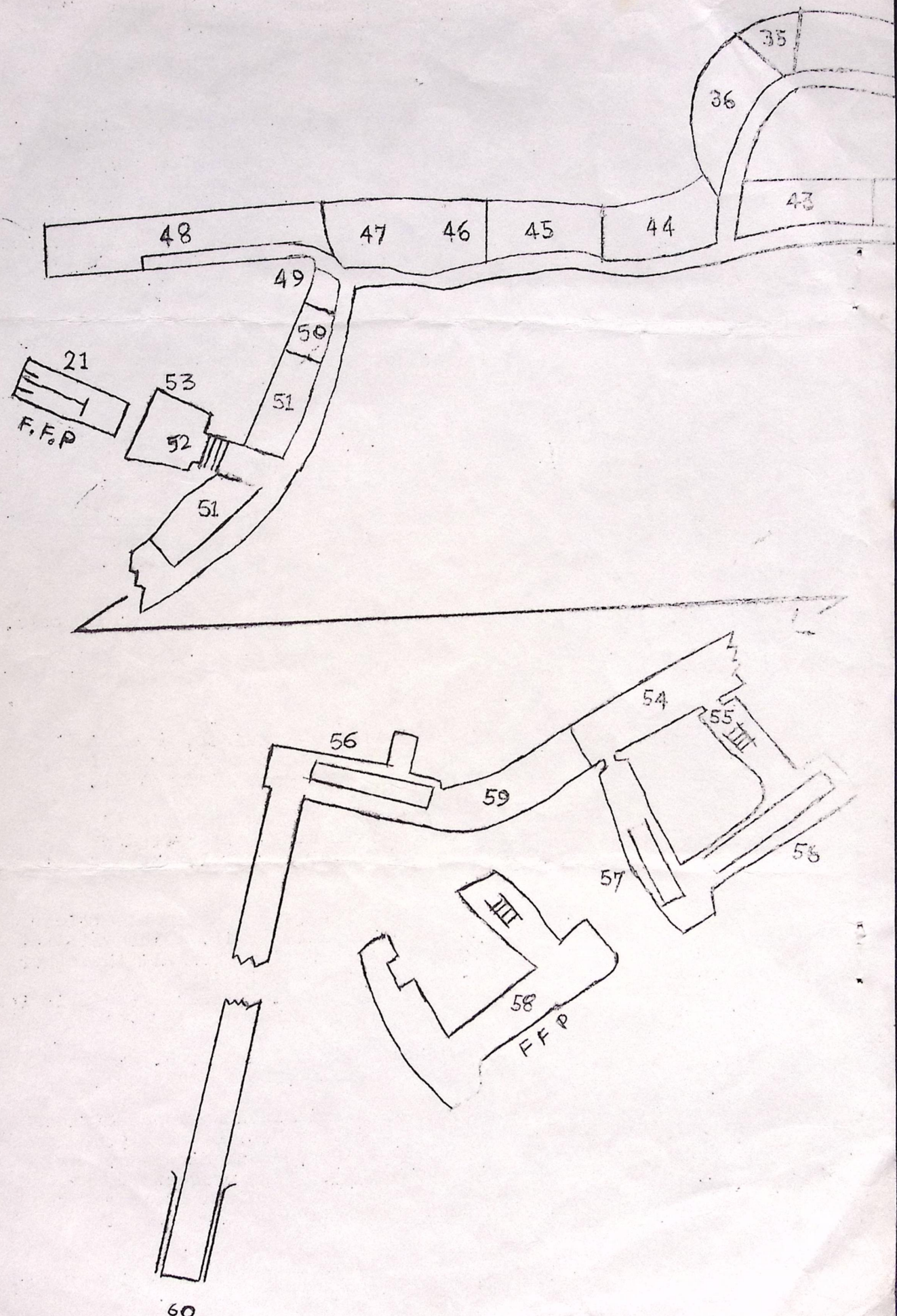
CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION: P. T. Ede (Chief Regional Officer of the COI). There is also a Special Information Unit, which will act as a coordinating centre for processing information from all the other departments. This will be run by J.N. Allen (a Principal Inspector at the Board of Inland Revenue) and J.S.Cassell (a principal at the Overseas Department of the Ministry of Labour).

G.P.O. H.S. Thomsett (the Regional Engineer) and L. G. Hawker (Senior Assistant Telecommunications Controller, Home Counties).

HEALTH: C. J. Plumb (until recently a Principal Regional Officer at the Ministry of Health). On his staff is Dr. H.L. Belcher (Surgeon-Commander, RN, Retd.) who is a specialist in venereal diseases. We hope they will have time to worry about <u>that</u>. Also present are Dr. Terence B. Geffen and Dr. Charles Seeley, (both Medical Officers of the M of H) and B.H. Street (a Senior Executive of the Executive Councils Division of the M of H)

FOOD: C. Dugelby (Chief Executive Officer of the SE Region of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

TRANSPORT: S.T.W. Bonns (Clerk of the Metropolitan Traffic Area, Ministry of Transport). Marples hole will be bigger then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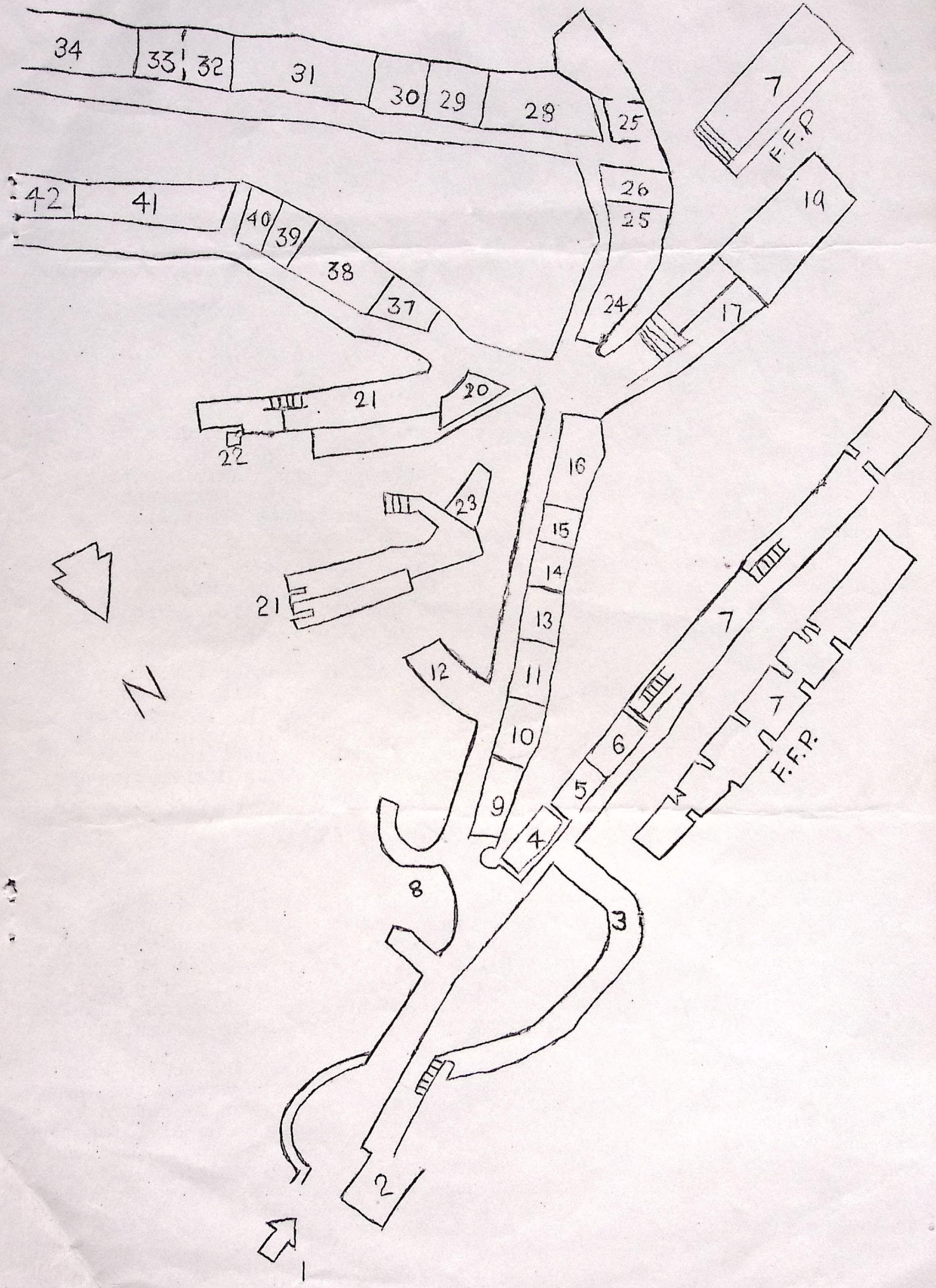
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POWER: W. H. Willmot (a Principal Officer in the Coal Division of the Ministry of Power)

LABOUR: G.K. Pollard and W.A. Dutcliffe (both senior officers of the Southern Region of the Ministry of Labour)

THE OLD BOY NET IN RSG-6.

The largest civilian department in RSG-6 is the Scientific Section, which is run almost entirely by Oxford dons. Take a look at them, listed by faculty

PHYSICS;	G.K. Woodgate, M.A., D.Phil. St. Peter's. J.M. Baker, M.A., D. Phil. , Merton. D.F. Shaw, M.A., D.Phil., Keble.
INORGANIC CHEMISTRY:	F.J.C. Rosotti, M.A., B.Sc. D.Phil., St. Edmund's Hall. C.S.G. Phillips, M.A., PH.D., Merton.
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY:	H.W. Thompson, C.B.E., M.A., D.Sc., Ph.D. F.R.S. ST. John's. R.E. Richards, M.A., D. Phil., F.R.S., Lincoln.

Other universities are well represented, just to keep things fair, by such figures as Professor A.N. Black, M.A., M.I. Mech. E., late of Exeter College, Oxford, (Professor of Engineering, and Administrative Head of the Engineering Department at Southampton University) and William Davey, B.Sc. , Ph.D., F.R.I.C., A.M. Inst. Pet., M.B.I.M. (Principal of the Portsmouth College of Technology).

In the Scientific Section at RSG-6 there are also a number of Scientific Officers of the War Office, Air Ministry, the Ministry of Aviation and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. This section is clearly/the most important in RSG-6.

It is comforting to know that the Scientific Section at RSG-4 is similarly run by the Oxbridge men of the Eastern Region - Cambridge dons, in this case. Among them are D.V. Bugg, M.A., Ph.D. Assistant Director of Research in Radiotherapeutics, St. John's, and E.S.Shire, M.A., Reader in Physics, King's. Mr Shire is the Scientific Adviser to the Regional Civil Defence Corps. Incidentally, the Civil Defence Section in RSG-4 is also run by someone from the London Region - J. P. Miller, the Assistant Regional Director, another lucky man who won't be in London when the Bomb drops.

RSG-6 IN ACTION

RSG-6 has been activated several times. One of these was for Exercise PARAPLUIE, which took place on a number of weekends in April, May and June 1962. This exercise was based on the assumption that seven Bombs were dropped on England as follows: 10-megaton Bombs on NW and East London and Byfleet; a 5-megaton bomb on Birmingham; 100- kiloton Bombs near Oxford and Chetwode; and a tweeny weeny 50-kiloton bomb on Aldershot. (The Russians had exploded a 60-megaton Bomb the previous autumn.)

In the Southern Region troops were needed to help the police keep order. But soon after the Birmingham Bomb the radiation levels rose so high that all military personnel in the Region except for Dorset were ordered to go to ground for 48 hours. What happened to the civilian population does not bear thinking about. As for RSG-6, its communications fell into such a state of chaos that messages were transmitted up to two hours late, and there was total confusion about from whom messages had come, and to whom they were going. This happened during a purely imaginary exercise which assumed nuclear destruction on an absurdly small scale.

Things were even worse during Exercise FALLEX last September. "Der Spiegel" revealed the chaos in Germany; the British Press wept crocodile tears about censorship over there, but has so far not said

a word about the same exercise in Britain. We wonder if Fleet Street will even report this pamphlet? FALLEX-62 was played under the observation of Sir Charles Cunningham, KCB,KBE,CB,CVO,Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, who reported direct to the Cabinet on what he saw in RSG-6. Sir Charles's salary is the maximum a Civil Servant can get - £6950. He is one of the most powerful men in the country.

FALLEX-62 was a full-scale rehearsal of the build-up to a nuclear war. After an imaginary increase of world tension, general mobilisation was ordered 15 September 1962. Thousands of reservists actually received practice call-up papers. The RSG's, RSG-6 among them were manned on the same day.

On 17 September the hospitals were evacuated. On 18 September the Regional Commissioner took up his post. On 19 September the Regional Commissioner assumed full governmental powers, and became the Director of his region. On the same day the official evacuation of heavily populated areas began. Official evacuees included half the populations of Southampton and Portsmouth, and with unofficial evacuees they effectively choked all the main roads. On 20 September the ports were evacuated.

During this imaginary build-up the Civil Defence Corps pretended to distribute the then unpublished Householderr's Handbook, which must have been very useful. We were told to get in 14 days' supply of food and water (where from?) and to stay under cover for 7 days (then what) Large heavily-populated areas like London were called Z-Zones and then abandonded to their fate.

The imaginary nuclear war began on 21 September, which by an extraordinary coincidence was the day on which all the preparations were complete. It started with an H-Bomb attack on a German NATO base, followed by similar attacks on Turkey, Italy, Britain and USA.

FALLEY-62 was meant to test the military preparedness of NATO, but above all to examine in action the efficiency of the emergency plans for the civilian population (who , of course, were never told anything about it). It did that all right.

Within a few days Britain suffered widespread devastation, including 15 megadeaths. The West German Minister for the Interior said afterwards that "under the present circumstances nobody has a chance" The 1963 White Paper on Defence tells another story. "In general" the plans were "basically sound and practicable"

What are the facts? It was assumed that this country had been allowed six days of preparation, and that the dispersion and mobilisation schemes were complete before war started. This is rather unlikely when nuclear war begins in earnest. It was assumed that the Civil Defence Corps was at wartime duty establishment. In fact, the major communication breakdown between the RSG's and with other centres would take place. They had learned the lessons of Parapluie in the spring, and changed the rules!

The medical services broke down completely. Every hospital in the Southern Region was destroyed or put out of action by fallout, the death of Doctors or the lack of supplies. The communications system broke down, and the roads were choked. Gloucester, Oxford and Plymouth were eliminated by small bombs. London was paralysed: to go above ground was death. A lethal belt of radiation extended as far out as Windsor. (We trust that the Heir to the Throne was not mutated) Three quarters of the Police in the Southern Region were killed, injured or irradiated. Losses among the civilian population were proportionately even higher, Whoever won the war, we lost it.

In this nightmare world, the authorities still pursued their childish dreams. The RSG's still got in touch with their London boss by dialling ABBey 1255 and asking for CHAPLIN. In the RSG's the heads of departments were known officially as "players" (people like players)and unofficially as"Gauleiters", (The Games theory of war!)

But FALLEX-62 was not a complete waste of time. It gave Der Spiegel the chance to blow the gaff on the whole tragic farce of NATO. It proved once and for all the truth of the 1957 Defence White Paper that <u>there is no defence against nuclear war.</u>

And it convinced at least <u>one</u> occupant of one RSG at least that the deterrent is quite futile.

....xxxxooOOOOOOOOooooxxxx....

A PLAN of RSG-6 will be found in the centre of this pamphlet. This is a key to the room numbers.

<u>F.F.P. - First Floor Plan</u>

1. Entrance
2. Boiler House
3. Engineers' Dept.
4. Camp Commandant
5. Security
6. Works Store
7. Dormitory
8. GPO Store
9. Messengers
10. National Assistance Board
11. National Insurance
12. Regional Commander
13. Min. of Labour
14. Min. of Aviation
15. Home Office
16. G.P.O.
17. Counter Room
18. Voice Procedure
19. Teleprinters
20. PBX
21. Lavatories
22. Ventilatihg Shaft
23. Army Signals
24. COI, BBC
25. Treasury (Big 5)
26. Power
27. Conference Room 3
28. Directing Staff (Commons)
29. Ministry of Works
30. Min. of Health
31. Directing Staff
32. Min. of Transport
33. Min. of Housing
34. Scientific Section
35. Civil Defence
36. Combined Operations
37. Conference Room I
38. Conference Room 2
39. Director of Operations
40. Assissant Director of Operations
41. Regional Commissioner
42. Principal Officer
43. Secretariat
44. Information
45. Police
46. Fire Brigade
47. Min of Ag.,Fish & Food
48. Armed Services
49. HMSO
50. WVS
51. Common Services
52. First Aid
53. Pump Room
54. Canteen
55. Stationery Store
56. Water Tanks
57. Switchgear
58. Kitchen Stores
59. Kitchen
60. Emergency Exit (?)

<u>Scale</u> : 10 yards to 1 inch

N.B. <u>This map is CROWN COPYRIGHT</u>

CONCLUSIONS

The strongest argument against the RSG network is that even the Government does not take it seriously. During the Cuba Crisis in October 1962, RSG-6 was empty. At a time when we came nearer to nuclear war than ever before, no reservists were called up, no evacuation was planned, no instructions were given to the population, no hospitals were prepared, not even a Regional Commissioner was appointed. In the face of a real emergency, fuck-all was done.

But the RSG's are there. The secret seats of government and their privileged occupants are an ominous indication of the attitude of the British Government towards the British people. You can be sure the Russian Government knows all about it. You can be sure the American Government knows all about it. The British people are meant to know nothing at all.

The whole process of establishing and staffing and equipping the RSG's has gone on without a scrap of democratic control or consent. The GPO must spend millions of our money on secret exchanges and switching centres. The Home Office and the Ministry of Works do not tell Parliament they propose to build RSG's. There is not one single person connexted with RSG-6 who has been democratically elected. And have M.P's, let alone councillors in the Southern Region, ever voted to establish a system of military government? The Civil Defence poster says " You would want to help - But how?". NOW YOU KNOW

The smokescreen around these places is meant to blind citizens of this country, not enemies abroad.

YOU ARE NOT THOUGHT FIT TO JUDGE WHAT YOUR RULERS DO

BUT NOW YOU KNOW. NOW YOU CAN JUDGE. NOW YOU CAN ACT!

This document is an Official Secret.

Secrets are kept from you because you may be a spy. Not for Russia, but for all people everywhere. Because you may believe you have the right to know what is being done about your future, in your name, at your expense but without your consent.

We are Spies for Peace. We have decided to publish an Official Secret. All we have is a voice. We have done what we can.

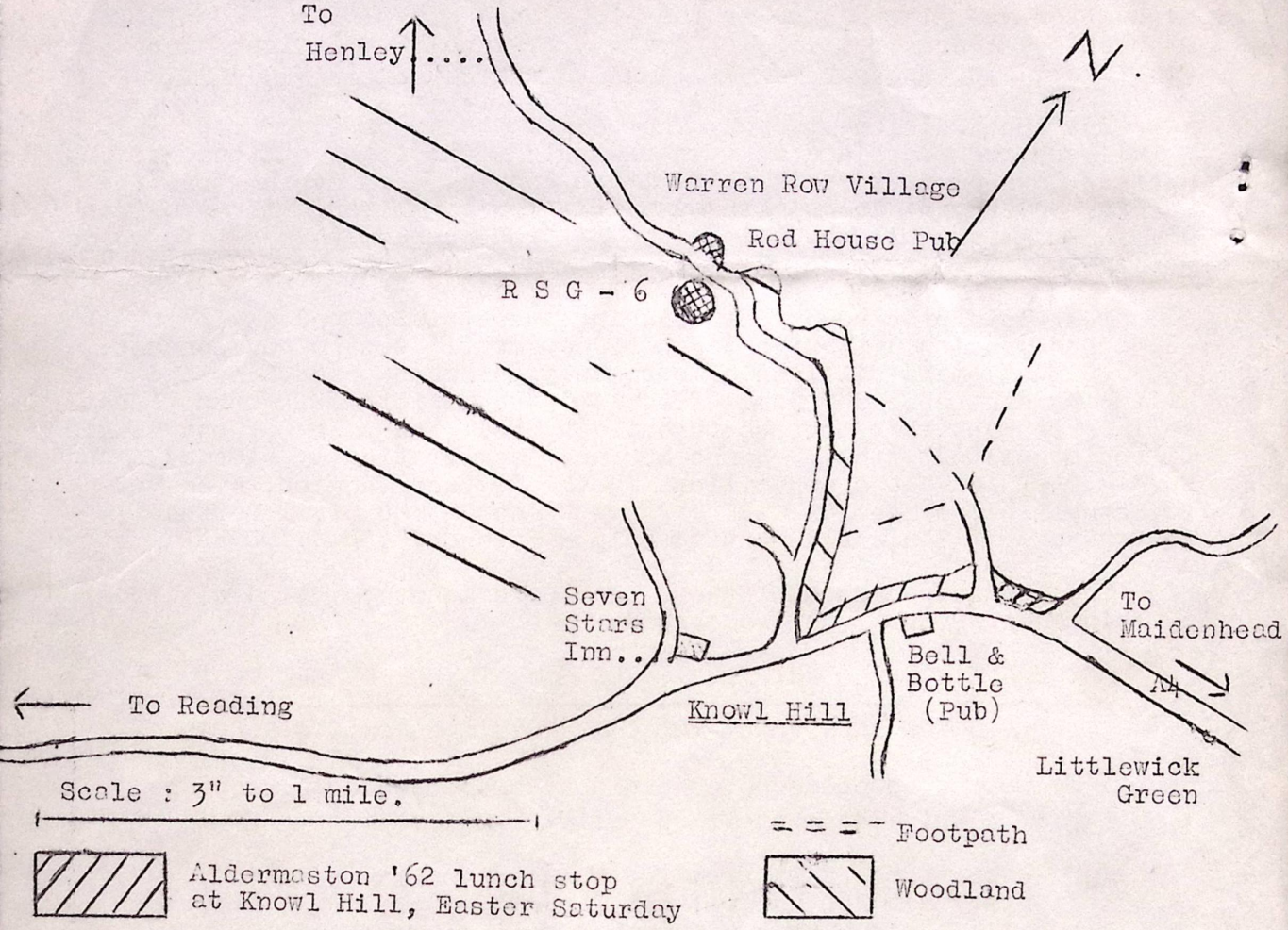
You have a voice too. If you spread this story as widely and as quickly as you can, you will stop the authorities ever hiding it again.

A SECRET HAS ESCAPED. Give it a good run before they catch it. Read it. Discuss it. Hand it round. Reprint it.

THERE ARE THOUSANDS MORE SECRETS IN CAPTIVITY. This is not the only one we shall release.

DO YOU KNOW AN OFFICIAL SECRET ?

ALDERMASTON 1963.....?



RSG-6 lies only a mile off the A4.
For the last five years the
Aldermaston March has walked past.
Nothing has been done about RSG-6.
Because nobody has known about it.

On Easter Saturday 1963 thousands will know. Will they march past to have their lunch at Knowl Hill and Littlewick Green?

Or will they turn left just after the Seven Stars pub, and take the road to Warren Row?

It's up to you.....

This reprint is published and produced by the Committee of 100, 13, Goodwin Street, London, N.4. (Telephone ARChway 1239).